

nation, San Antonio is proud of its humble warriors. San Antonio can not only boast about its strong economy, thriving culture, and beautiful weather, it can now lay claim to pro basketball's finest team.

From the rich tradition of the San Antonio Missions and the Alamo, to the Tower of the Americas, San Antonio's skyline can now add the true Twin Towers, David Robinson and Tim Duncan. The whole team acted as one cohesive unit, displaying the chemistry that all great champions have, and to that, they all proved worthy. For a team that has one of the highest college graduation rates in all professional sports, they are truly heroes and role models for us all.

This fine athletic achievement is not only for the city of San Antonio, Peter and Julianna Holt, the team owners, or the players, but it is for all the fans of the old American Basketball Association. This is the first time a team from the old ABA has won the NVA Championship. This victory was for all of us who remember the "Iceman" George Gervin, along with countless other great stars who toiled long hours for recognition. It is for those who remember the Hemisphere Arena and the "Baseline Burns". Team basketball shined this day, and for all the fans of the San Antonio Spurs, it shines just a little brighter.

TRIBUTE TO JOAN STEFANSKI

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Joan Stefanski who today retires from her position of Director of the Ferndale Chamber of Commerce after twenty-two years of distinguished service to the Ferndale community.

She has been instrumental in coalition-building in the City of Ferndale. A unique contribution has been her efforts in building relationships between business and the homeowners of Ferndale. A familiar scene were the block parties where business men and women would volunteer along with the residents. Joan has that special skill of bringing together people of diverse interests and abilities, and encouraging a partnership between them.

Years ago, the assumption by many was that Ferndale was a city in decline. Many citizens felt otherwise and Joan Stefanski was among the key activists. She played an important role in business development in the city, bringing about a re-blossoming of Ferndale. An example was the decision of Credit Union One to remain in Ferndale, thus helping to keep Ferndale commercially viable, and set the tone for other companies to bring their business to the city. Today, we see downtown Ferndale moving ahead rapidly. Today, we see the neighborhoods increasingly sought after as a place of residence.

As a Congressman, I have thoroughly enjoyed the many years of our working relationship. Whether it was trying to find a reasonable and real solution to the Ferndale Post Office difficulties, bringing together people to form the Southwest Oakland Coalition for the prevention of drug and alcohol abuse, or attending Chamber meetings, among many endeavors, my staff and I have always found working with Joan to be most productive and satisfying.

Joan Stefanski has also been an unassuming and highly effective pioneer in breaking down barriers to women in the business world.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in wishing Joan Stefanski and her husband good health and happiness as they move to their retirement home on the west side of Michigan and in honoring her for over 20 years of exceptional and committed service to the community of Ferndale.

TRIBUTE TO GENERAL CHARLES C. KRULAK, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great patriot, a man amongst men and a Marine's Marine. After almost forty years of devoted service to this Nation, General Charles C. Krulak, 31st Commandant of the Marine Corps, will soon receive his final orders directing him to stand-down and retire from active duty. His departure will signal an evolutionary change—the first time in 70 years that a Krulak will be absent from the roles of the United States Marine Corps.

After graduating from the Naval Academy in 1964, General Krulak had an illustrious career that spanned four decades of faithful service to this Nation. During his service to our country General Krulak commanded a platoon and two rifle companies during two tours of duty in Vietnam; he commanded a Marine infantry rifle battalion; was the Commanding General for 10th Marine Expeditionary Brigade; Assistant Division Commander for 2d Marine Division, Fleet Marine Forces Atlantic; Commanding General, 2d Force Service Support Group; Commanding General, 6th Marine Expeditionary Brigade; commanded the 2d Force Service Support Group during the Gulf War; commanded Marine Forces Pacific/Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific, and on June 29, he was promoted to General and assumed duties as the 31st Commandant on June 30, 1995.

General Krulak's decorations and medals include: the Silver Star Medal; Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V" and two gold stars; Purple Heart with gold star; Combat Action Ribbon; Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry; the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal; and the Kuwait Liberation Medal.

It is during his tenure as the 31st Commandant of the Marine Corps to which this body has come to know and appreciate the many virtues of this modern day warrior. His accomplishments as Commandant will resonate long and far into the next millennium, ensuring the Marine Corps remains the world's premier crisis response force. A professional force that is committed, capable, and reliable to meet any challenge, under any circumstance, anytime and anyplace in the world.

The challenges which will confront this Nation in the 21st century will be varied and often unpredictable—a time of asymmetry, uncertainty, and chaos. Fortunately, General Krulak had the wisdom and foresight to understand the emergence of this fluid and unstable environment. He understood the necessity to

field an agile and adaptable force—a Corps of Marines who could prevail against the multifaceted threats which would challenge our Nation's security and its interests.

General Krulak understood the situation at hand. He understood, not merely the importance to modernize the force, but to develop new concepts and techniques which will ensure decisive victory in the "savage wars of peace." He forged his Corps of Marines through unrelenting sacrifice, initiative, and courage.

He labored extensively within the naval services to develop common operational concepts to support the strategic vision expressed in "Forward . . . From the Sea."

He diligently exercised oversight of the Marine Corps in its roles as lead or executive agency within the Department of Defense for Military Operations Other Than War, Military Operations on Urban Terrain, and Non-Lethal Weapons.

He promoted the institutionalization of the Combat Development System and the Concepts Based Requirements System in the Marine Corps. These systems ensured that Marine Corps doctrine, organization, training and education, equipment and supporting activities were all driven by, and working toward achieving, a common operational warfighting concept.

He created the Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory as a standing forum to serve as the cradle and test bed for the development of enhanced operational concepts, tactics, techniques, procedures, and doctrine which would be progressively introduced into the fleet Marine Forces in concert with new technologies.

He directed the creation of the Marine Corps' Chemical-Biological Incident Response Force to assist in filling a void in the Nation's ability to manage the consequences of a chemical or biological incident. This force has been employed on several instances at the national level, and has prompted the development of additional consequence management capabilities throughout DoD.

He created and implemented the "Transformation Process" of making Marines—a holistic approach to recruiting and developing young men and women to ensure they have the skills and basic character needed to effectively meet the asymmetric 21st century threat. Transformation, which begins with a prospective recruit's first contact with a Marine recruiter and continues throughout a Marine's service, constituted a major enhancement to the way the Marine Corps recruits and trains Marines.

He labored extensively to institutionalize the Marine Corps' "core values" of honor, courage, and commitment while maintaining—and in many cases elevating—performance standards in every aspect of Marine Corps' recruiting and developmental processes—be they mental, physical or moral.

There are many more accomplishments that could be enumerated upon here—accomplishments that speak to programs and doctrine, to systems and platforms. But, to focus on these, as daunting as they are, would be an injustice to the most important aspect of General Krulak's storied career—the care and nurturing of the Marine Corps family.

He created the Personnel and Family Readiness Division within Headquarters Marine Corps to account for the fact that personal and family readiness are inseparable from combat

readiness. General Krulak not only pursued making better Marines, capable of winning our Nation's future battles, but also to make better Americans. He promoted a focus on character development and high ethical and moral standards. He stressed core values of honor, courage, and commitment as a way of life in the Corps. They are attributes that will serve them well, long after they have hung up their uniforms.

A key contributor to the Marine Corps family and a person General Krulak owes much success to is his wife, Sandy Krulak. She gave dignity and grace to the maturation of the Marine Corps family. She has devoted her life to her husband and to the Corps. Her sacrifice and devotion has served as an example and inspiration for others. Later this month the Corps will lose not one, but two very exceptional people.

In closing I want to recognize General Krulak for his uncompromising integrity to always do the right thing, for the Nation and his beloved Corps. His unwavering conviction that "Semper Fidelis" is a way of life, not just a motto, speaks powerfully to the citizens he serves. It has been my good fortune—it has been the House good fortune—to witness the resolve of a person who believes so strongly about the institution to which he serves. Now, to some that might seem old fashioned and out-of-step with societies norms today, but to General Krulak it is the life and blood that sustains the Corps. He fought hard to address readiness and modernization issues before the Senate Armed Services Committee when it was not always popular to do so. He challenged the logic and assertion by many of the benefits concerning integrated training during indoctrination into the military. Today, the Corps is meeting its recruiting requirements, forty-eight months consecutively and achieved its retention goals—a testimony to the wisdom and foresight of General Krulak.

General Krulak, the Marine Corps is a better institution today than it was four years ago. Your sacrifice and devotion to duty have made it so. You have provided a significant and lasting contribution to your Corps and to this Nation's security. Through your stewardship there is a renewed sense of esprit de corps. Those who follow your example will be a testament to the legacy you leave behind.

I want to wish you and your family fair winds and following seas as you step down as the 31st Commandant of the Marine Corps. Your distinguished and faithful service to our country is greatly appreciated. You will be sorely missed, but surely not forgotten.

LEGISLATION FOR THE PEOPLE OF BIKINI ATOLL

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing legislation today to assist in the resettlement and relocation of the people of Bikini Atoll by amending the terms of the trust fund established during the United States administration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. This will permit the people of Bikini to use a portion of their fund for resettlement activities for the remaining 90 seniors who were

affected by United States nuclear testing in the Marshall Islands without any additional federal expenditure and consistent with the intent of Congress. These individuals are still waiting to resettle after over five decades since the U.S. program began in their islands which resulted in their removal from their home atoll.

At the Committee on Resources' May 11th hearing on the status of nuclear claims, relocation and resettlement efforts in the Marshall Islands, and as part of the May 10th Congressional pre-hearing briefing, the people of Bikini asked Congress to support a one-time 3 percent distribution from the Resettlement Trust Fund, which is used both for the cleanup of Bikini and for the ongoing needs of the Bikini people. Congress established this trust fund in 1982 pursuant to P.L. 97-257 and appropriated additional funds in 1988 pursuant to P.L. 100-446.

The Bikini people have explained that Dr. John Mauro and his team are preparing a report on the potential radiation doses and health risks to the people of Bikini and costs associated with various remediation options, which should be completed within three months. The exact cost has not yet been established, but it is estimated that the entire cleanup and resettlement process, from planning through execution, will take approximately ten years. As a result, it is certain that the Bikini elders, many of whom have not been back on their home islands for more than 53 years, will probably die on Kili without returning home.

The Bikinians, for their part, have ensured the fiscal integrity of the Resettlement Trust Fund. They have selected reputable U.S. banks as trustees, hired well-respected and talented investment advisors and money managers, and provided for routine monthly financial statements and annual audits. Thanks to the money managers and the Bikini Council's voluntary restraint on the use of these funds, the corpus remains intact, the trust fund has earned almost 14 percent annually, every dollar has been accounted for, annual audits are prepared, and monthly financial statements are sent to the Interior Department's Office of Insular Affairs.

In light of the strength of the trust, its fiscal integrity, the lengthy time a cleanup and restoration will take, and the special circumstances of the elders, the Bikinians wish to make a one-time 3 percent distribution from the Resettlement Trust Fund, with the understanding that the primary beneficiaries of the distribution will be the 90 surviving Bikini elders. Because of the excellent management of the trust fund, such a distribution will not require an appropriation of funds by Congress, nor will it diminish the original corpus of the trust. The Bikini people would also agree that the amount of such distribution be deducted from any further additional ex gratia appropriations made by the Congress into the Resettlement Trust Fund.

The corpus will remain intact with a 3 percent distribution. The original corpus of the trust was \$110 million, based on the \$20 million appropriated in 1982 and the additional \$90 million in 1988. The market value of the trust today is approximately \$126 million, so a 3 percent distribution, or approximately \$3,780,000, will reduce the market value to \$122.2 million, which remains well above the original corpus.

This authorization to the people of Bikini is appropriate as it is what the community of Bikini desires and it is consistent with congressional intent for the resettlement of the people whose lives and homes were disrupted by U.S. testing. Without any additional cost to the U.S. taxpayer, Congress can help the remaining senior Bikini elders' resettlement and relocation.

Following is a copy of the Kili/Bikini/Ejit Local Government Council's May 12, 1999 Resolution on this matter, reflecting the full support of the Bikini community.

KILI/BIKINI/EJIT LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL:
KILI/BIKINI/EJIT LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION No. 2-1999

A RESOLUTION

This Resolution requests a one-time three percent (3%) distribution from the existing corpus of the Resettlement Trust Fund for the People of Bikini to benefit primarily the Bikini elders and to request appropriate U.S. Senate and House committees to hold hearings to determine the appropriateness of such request, the status of cleanup efforts at Bikini, current estimates of cleanup and restoration costs, questions concerning the guarantee of Bikini Atoll's safety and other appropriate issues.

Whereas, the Resettlement Trust Fund for the People of Bikini ("Resettlement Trust Fund") was established by the U.S. Congress in 1982 pursuant to the terms of Public Law No. 97-257, for "the relocation and resettlement of the Bikini people in the Marshall Islands, principally on Kili and Ejit Islands;" and

Whereas, Public Law No. 97-257 also instructed that \$3,000,000 of the Resettlement Trust Fund was to be made available ex gratia to the people of Bikini over a three-year period; and

Whereas, the U.S. Congress appropriated additional funds for the Resettlement Trust Fund in 1988 and modified its terms to provide that funds could also be "expended for rehabilitation and resettlement of Bikini Atoll;" and

Whereas, the people of Bikini have ensured the fiscal integrity of the Resettlement Trust Fund by (1) selecting reputable banks as trustees (American Security Bank and now FMB Trust), (2) hiring well-respected investment advisors (such as Alex, Brown and PaineWebber) and money managers (such as MFS, Gabelli, Fiduciary Trust, etc.), and (3) directing that every dollar of Resettlement Trust Fund expenditures be audited and that monthly financial statements and annual audits be routinely provided to the Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs, which oversees the Resettlement Trust Fund; and

Whereas, the Resettlement Trust Fund has averaged a 14% annual return since inception; and

Whereas, the Resettlement Trust Fund has paid out millions of dollars since inception for scholarships, health care, food programs, housing and electrical power construction, maintenance and repairs on Kili and Ejit, and infrastructure, cleanup and resettlement activities on Bikini Atoll; and

Whereas, through prudent management and voluntary restrictions on the use of Resettlement Trust Fund monies, the market value of the Resettlement Trust Fund today is approximately \$126,000,000; and

Whereas, recently disclosed information previously withheld by the U.S. government reveals that the physical and radiological damage to Bikini Atoll caused by the U.S. nuclear testing program was more extensive than was or could have been known by the people of Bikini until the disclosure of such information; and